

Idaho Math Initiative

Overview

Vision

Idaho's Math Initiative aims to improve student understanding and performance in mathematics and elevate public awareness of the importance of math education.

Focus areas of Idaho Math Initiative

- Student Achievement
- Teacher Education
- Public Awareness

Student Achievement

- New high school content standards
 - Available to districts in 2008-09 school year for course development and materials adoption. Course-specific standards mandatory in 2009-10 school year. 9th and 10th grade standards no longer available
- Curricular Materials
 - Categorized Highly Recommended, Recommended, Recommended with Reservations and Recommended with Strong Reservations
 - Caravan dates: Moscow on October 8, Boise on October 28, Twin Falls on October 29, Idaho Falls on October 30
- Direct Math Assessment
 - Scheduled for December 3
 - Trainings this fall
- Primary Math Assessment
 - Grades K-2
 - Interview-type format
 - Take 5-8 minutes per student
 - Field Test in Spring 2008 and pilot conducted in Fall and Spring 2008
- Middle Grade Intervention
 - Statewide contract with Apangea Learning for SmartHelp Math program
 - Available for grades 5-8

Teacher Education

- Mathematical Thinking for Instruction (3 credits) course
 - For all teachers who teach math and administrators who oversee them
 - Required for certification in 2015
 - Course by grade level: K-3 Number Sense, 4-8 Number Sense, 6-12 Algebraic Thinking
- Training two regional specialists in initial year

Public Awareness

Emphasize the importance of math education through:

- Public Service Announcements this fall on both television and radio
- Brochures during school year for teachers/parents
- Family Math Nights: Funding available for interested schools
- Focus Groups: Principals, PTA, business organizations, etc.